

ABSTRACT

Provided is a system, and components thereof, for monitoring plural newspaper vending machines. Each of the newspaper vending machines includes: (i) container means for storing a stack of newspapers; (ii) inventorsy means disposed within the container means for indicating a quantity of newspapers in the container means; (iii) transmission means for transmitting wireless messages; and (iv) control means coupled to the inventorsy means and to the transmission means for causing the transmission means to transmit a low-inventorsy wireless message upon a detection by the inventorsy means of a low-inventorsy condition. A base station receives the low-inventorsy wireless message and transmits a corresponding message to a pre-designated recipient via a cellular wireless network and/or a hard-wired network.